

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 03126 01 OF 02 132013Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 /093 W  
-----030681 132042Z /40

R 131505Z DEC 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5833  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USBERLIN 3126

E.O.11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: BQG, WB, UR  
SUBJECT: MEETING OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV WITH FRENCH  
AMBASSADOR BRUNET

REF: USBERLIN 3121

SUMMARY. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO FRG FROM BONN MET SOVIET AMBASSADOR  
TO THE GDR FOR LUNCH IN EAST BERLIN ON DECEMBER 8. ABRASIMOV  
REITERATED USUAL SOVIET COMPLAINTS ABOUT FRG AND LAENDER  
ACTIVITIES IN WEST BERLIN BUT BROKE NO NEW GROUND. BRUNET  
REITERATED WELL-KNOWN ALLIED POSITIONS AND ACCORDING TO FRENCH  
MISSION HERE GAVE A "CUM LAUDE" PERFORMANCE IN WHAT WAS HIS  
FIRST SESSION WITH ABRASIMOV. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO FRG BRUNET CAME TO BERLIN FOR LUNCH  
WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO GDR ABRASIMOV IN EAST BERLIN ON  
DECEMBER 8. MEETING WAS QUALIFIED AS "FRIENDLY BUT FRANK"  
IN THE COMMUNIQUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 03126 01 OF 02 132013Z

2. THE TWO AMBASSADORS HAD KNOWN EACH OTHER WHEN  
ABRASIMOV WAS SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN PARIS AND BRUNET WAS  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AT THE QUAL.

3. FRENCH MEMCON FOLLOWS IN INFORMAL MISSION TRANSLA-  
TION. BEGIN TEXT: IN THE COURSE OF A LONG SESSION

ABRASIMOV REFERRED INSISTENTLY TO THE MAIN COMPLAINTS OF HIS GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE THREE ALLIED POWERS AND THE FRG. HIS COMPLAINTS WERE PARTICULARLY VEHEMENT ABOUT THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL ACTIVITY IN THE WESTERN SECTORS.

IN THE COURSE OF THE LAST MONTHS FORCES WHICH WISHED A REVISION OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT (QA) HAD GREATLY INCREASED THEIR INITIATIVES WHICH ENDEAVORED TO SHOW THAT WEST BERLIN WAS A LAND (FEDERAL STATE) OF THE FRG. THESE PARTISAN FORCES WERE NOT TO BE FOUND EXCLUSIVELY AMONG THE CDU OPPOSITON BUT HAD BEEN RE-INFORCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM WITHIN THE FRG GOVERNMENT. MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL CABINET DID NOT HESITATE TO TRAVEL TO THE WESTERN SECTORS AND TO PERFORM OFFICIAL ACTS THERE. PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS OF THE LAENDER ACTED AS THOUGH IT WERE NATURAL FOR THEM TO MEET IN WEST BERLIN TO PROCLAIM THAT THE CITY WAS PART OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

NO CLAUSE IN THE QA AUTHORIZED THESE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS TO HOLD SUCH SESSIONS IN WEST BERLIN SUCH AS (TO CITE ONLY THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE) THE FDP FRAKTION FROM THE LANDTAG OF LOWER SAXONY. ANYTHING THAT WAS NOT EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE QA IS FORBIDDEN. NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS CLEAR THAT SUCH MEETINGS WERE CONTRARY TO THE PROVISION WHICH HELD THAT WEST BERLIN WAS NOT A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG AND COULD NOT BE GOVERNED BY THE FRG. IF THESE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS WISH TO MEET

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 03126 01 OF 02 132013Z

IN LUXEMBOURG OR IN NORMANDY OR IN OTHER TOURISTIC LOCATIONS IT WAS QUITE LAWFUL FOR THEM TO DO SO BUT THE SOVIET UNION COULD NOT TOLERATE SUCH SESSIONS IN WEST BERLIN SINCE THIS WAS A CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE QA.

FACED WITH THESE PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS THE THREE POWERS, FAR FROM REACTING, AND LET MATTERS SLIDE AND THE QA WAS VIOLATED WITH THEIR CONSENT, EITHER TACITLY OR EXPLICITLY. PERHAPS THESE PROVOCATIONS WOULD END UNHAPPILY, ABRASIMOV STATED, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE THE SOVIETS ON WHOM THE RESPONSIBILITY WOULD DEVOLVE. ANOTHER COMMENT OF ABRASIMOV TO BE NOTED "IF YOU, THE THREE ALLIES, WISH TO THROW OVER THE PARTICULAR STATUS OF THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN WE WILL SEEK ANOTHER PARTNER BUT WE DO NOT THINK THAT THIS WILL BE IN YOUR INTEREST."

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 03126 02 OF 02 131658Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 /093 W  
-----029175 132041Z /40

R 131505Z DEC 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5834  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USBERLIN 3126

ABRASIMOV FOUND IT EQUALLY INADMISSIBLE THAT THE  
TREATIES ESTABLISHING THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES BE  
APPLIED TO WEST BERLIN AND PARTICULARLY INADMISSIBLE  
THE EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF THE DECISION BY THE COUNCIL  
OF MINISTERS RELATING TO ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY UNIVERSAL DIRECT VOTE. NO  
ARTICLE OF THE QA CONFIRMED THAT WEST BERLIN LAY WITHIN  
THE AREA OF APPLICABILITY OF THE 1957 TREATIES. THE  
SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAD NOT ACCEPTED SUCH AN INCULSION AND  
THESE TREATIES HAD NO VALIDITY FROM THE SOVIET POINT OF  
VIEW. IN CLOSING ABRASIMOV, PICKING UP A REMARK MADE  
BY BRUNET ON THE EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN, RECONFIRMED  
THE WELL-KNOWN POSITION OF THE SOVIET UNION: THAT THERE  
NO LONGER EXISTED A SOVIET SECTOR OF BERLIN SINCE THE  
DISSOLUTION OF THE ALLIED OCNTROL AUTHORITY WHICH  
HAD BEEN CAUSED BY THE WESTERN POWERS. THERE WERE  
ONLY THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN ON THE ONE HAND  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 03126 02 OF 02 131658Z

AND BERLIN, CAPITAL OF THE GDR, ON THE OTHER. THE QA  
HAD CONFIRMED THIS DEFACTO SITUATION BY RECOGNIZING  
IT.

BRUNET RESPONDED TO EACH OF THESE POINTS BY CITING  
THE WELL-KNOWN WESTERN POSTIONS. HE STRESSED PARTICU-  
LARLY THE FALLACIOUS INTERPRETATION THAT THE SOVIET

UNION WAS MAKING OF THE FAMOUS PROVISION ON TIES BETWEEN WEST BERLIN AND THE FRG AND INDICATED THAT FROM THE FRENCH VIEWPOINT ONE SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO RESPECT THE QA IN ITS TOTALITY. NO MORE THAN THE US OR THE UK COULD THE FRENCH BE ACCUSED OF TOLERATING FRG INITIATIVES CONTRARY TO THE PROVISION UNDER WHICH THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN CONTINUED NOT TO BE A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG NOR TO BE GOVERNED BY IT.

HE ALSO BROUGHT UP CERTAIN COMPLAINTS THAT THE WESTERN POWERS WERE IN THE PROCESS OF MAKING TO THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES. NOTABLY THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS PERMITTED STATES WHICH WERE NOT SIGNATORIES OF THE QA TO INTERPRET IT OPENLY AND TO ENTER INTO POLEMICS PREJUDICIAL TO THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE SIGNATORIES IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA.

IN SPITE OF THE FIRM AND UNEQUIVOCAL REITERATION OF OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THIS MEETING, ABRASIMOV NEVER ADOPTED A DISCOURTEOUS TONE. HE NONETHELESS MADE CLEAR THAT HIS REMARKS WHICH SOMETIMES SEEMED TO BE A WARNING STEMMED FROM A GROWING IRRITATION ON THE SOVIET PART CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF FEDERAL ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN. END TEXT.

4. COMMENT. IN SEPARATE COMMUNICATIONS, FRENCH MISSION TELLS US THAT AMBASSADOR BRUNET CAME THROUGH HIS FIRST ABRASIMOV DEBATE "CUM LAUDE". FOR INSTANCE, IN ATTACKING EC/BERLIN TIES, ABRASIMOV, WITH USUAL PROVOCATIVE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 03126 02 OF 02 131658Z

EXAGGERATION, SAID, "WHAT IS EC? IT IS SOMETHING IN WEST EUROPE. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT." TO THIS, BRUNET SUAVELY REPLIED WITH REAMBLE THAT ABRASIMOV MUST HAVE HAD LAPSE OF MEMORY, SINCE TO BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND ALL CEMA ALLIES WERE FULLY AWARE OF WHAT EC WAS, AND IN FACT WERE ACTIVELY PURSUING LINKS WITH IT. GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, AMBASSADORS, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USBERL03126  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770464-0233  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771260/aaaabyow.tel  
**Line Count:** 210  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 884ed504-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 USBERLIN 3121  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 251142  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEETING OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR BRUNET  
**TAGS:** PBOR, WB, UR, BQG  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/884ed504-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009